



THE magnificent portrait of Miss Farren was one of Sir Thomas Lawrence's earliest successes. The picture is that of a woman who is arch, careless, spirited, elegant and engaging. In other words, the artist has transferred to canvas the very qualities which made Miss Farren celebrated as an actress and a beauty. The daughter of a surgeon and apothecary, of Cork, who afterward became a strolling player, she conquered London by her wit, talents and art. In 1707 she retired from the stage and became the second wife of Edward, twelfth Earl of Derby. She died in 1820. The portrait was painted in 1790, when she was at the height of her fame as an actress. It is interesting to note that, her husband desiring to become the possessor of the portrait, there was some dispute as to the amount the artist should receive, his fee finally being fixed at one hundred guineas.

MISS FARREN, LATER COUNTESS OF DERBY By SIR THOMAS LAWRENCE.